

CRIME AND JUSTICE REPORT



For The District of Columbia

Government of the District of Columbia • Marion Barry, Jr., Mayor
Prepared by: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis

June 1986



MARION BARRY, JR.
MAYOR



THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

Message from the Mayor

The District of Columbia is one of the best places in the world to live and work. Its cultural and educational facilities, its economic growth and opportunities, and its physical beauty are unsurpassed.

Undergirding all the city's assets is its strong record in the area of public safety and crime reduction. Without a strong public safety program, and a committed approach to protecting residents, and visitors alike, our city could not prosper as it has done over the past several years. Among the world's largest urban centers, the District of Columbia enjoys one of the highest standards of public safety. In 1985, reported Crime Index offenses in the District declined by 7 percent, marking the fourth consecutive year of crime reduction.

During my administration, I have given public safety a high priority and have undertaken many initiatives to improve and strengthen it. Most recently, I have launched a multifaceted crime reduction and prevention program that will help break the vicious cycle of social isolation, unemployment and drug use that propels some of our young people into criminal activity. These new efforts will focus resources on improving family life for youth.

This report shows our continued success in reducing crime, especially in the areas of burglary and robbery. At the same time, drug arrests remain high, reflecting the chronic and widespread problem of drug abuse in our community. Prison data provided about prisons show that their population rise is primarily a result of increased drug abuse convictions.

The citizens of the District played a large part in helping us reduce crime, through various crime prevention programs. I therefore invite and urge every citizen to join with me and their government in making the District of Columbia an even better place to build a happy and productive future.

Sincerely,

Marion Barry Jr.
Mayor

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I. Introduction

One of the paramount responsibilities of any government is the protection of citizens. Under the leadership of Mayor Marion Barry Jr., the District of Columbia government has made public safety a number one priority. In the District, approximately 20 percent of the budget is allocated to public safety. In FY 1986, it is expected that more than \$550 million will be provided to operate the District's public safety agencies and the courts.

The District's public safety efforts begin with its crime prevention programs. To this end, the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) helped establish many neighborhood watch programs, involving 93,000 households in neighborhood surveillance activities. MPD also operates other crime prevention programs, such as Operation Identification, the Officer Friendly Program, and numerous drug education workshops.

Recently, Mayor Barry announced a new, multifaceted, crime reduction and prevention program to assist juveniles who become involved in delinquent behavior, and consequently, the justice system. This new effort will employ an inter-departmental approach, using the resources of several District government agencies, to provide comprehensive support services to youth and their families.

The District's Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis awarded 10 neighborhood grants in 1985 to help neighborhood groups operate juvenile delinquency prevention programs. Activities included street theater, drug prevention education, tutorial services, and self-concept building. This program will be repeated in FY 1986.

Other District agencies, such as the Department of Recreation and the Department of Employment Services, also operate programs which contribute to crime prevention.

When prevention efforts fail, a crime is committed, and a suspect is apprehended, processing through the criminal justice system begins. This process consists of several basic functions:

- (1) detection of crime and apprehension of offenders.
- (2) prosecution of criminal cases.
- (3) trial and convictions.
- (4) sentence, corrections, and parole.

Activities and decisions are measured at each stage. This information helps manage the use of criminal justice resources and helps guide the development of more effective programs.

The following report describes the activities and outcomes covering the different stages through which persons and/or cases are processed. The data are presented in an order that parallels the actual flow of cases through the criminal justice system. Data presented in the booklet are from the following agencies:

- (1) Metropolitan Police Department
- (2) Pretrial Services Agency
- (3) U.S. Attorney's Office
- (4) D.C. Office of the Corporation Counsel
- (5) D.C. Department of Corrections
- (6) D.C. Board of Parole

The data, in most instances, represent 5 and 10 year trends. Graphs and charts that appear in this report are derived from data found in the tables in the text and appendix sections.

Table 1

Population Estimates and Number and Rate Per 100,000 of Reported Crime Index Offenses
in the District of Columbia, Calendar Years 1975-1985^a

Year		Popu- lation Estimate	Crime Index Total	Violent Crime Total	Property Crime Total	Murder and Non- Negligent Manslaughter ^b	Forcible Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Burglary	Larceny- Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Arson ^c
1975	Total	721,800	55,166.0	12,713.0	42,453.0	240.0	524.0	9,137.0	2,812.0	13,164.0	25,892.0	3,397.0	—
	Rate		7,642.0	1,761.3	5,881.6	33.3	72.6	1,265.9	389.6	1,823.8	3,587.1	470.6	—
1976	Total	707,900	49,726.0	10,399.0	39,327.0	188.0	508.7	7,044.0	2,659.0	11,869.0	24,506.0	2,952.0	—
	Rate		7,024.4	1,469.0	5,555.5	26.6	71.8	995.1	375.6	1,676.7	3,461.8	417.0	—
1977	Total	691,500	49,812.0	9,835.0	39,977.0	192.0	393.0	6,656.0	2,594.0	11,590.0	25,645.0	2,742.0	—
	Rate		7,203.5	1,422.3	5,781.2	27.8	56.8	962.5	375.1	1,676.1	3,708.6	396.5	—
1978	Total	676,100	50,950.0	9,515.0	41,435.0	189.0	477.0	6,333.0	2,546.0	12,497.0	25,744.0	3,194.0	—
	Rate		7,535.9	1,407.3	6,128.5	28.0	66.1	936.7	376.6	1,848.4	3,807.7	472.4	—
1979	Total	660,200	56,721.0	10,553.0	46,168.0	180.0	489.0	6,920.0	2,964.0	13,452.0	28,819.0	3,606.0	291.0
	Rate		8,591.5	1,598.5	6,993.0	27.3	74.1	1,048.2	449.0	2,037.6	4,365.2	546.2	44.1
1980	Total	637,651	64,035.0	12,772.0	51,263.0	200.0	439.0	8,897.0	3,236.0	16,260.0	31,068.0	3,568.0	367.0
	Rate		10,042.3	2,003.0	8,039.4	31.4	68.8	1,395.0	507.5	2,550.0	4,872.3	559.6	57.6
1981	Total	630,600	66,338.0	14,468.0	53,870.0	223.0	414.0	10,399.0	3,432.0	16,832.0	32,845.0	3,765.0	428.0
	Rate		10,837.0	2,294.3	8,542.7	35.4	65.7	1,649.1	544.2	2,669.2	5,208.5	597.1	67.9
1982	Total	630,000	66,071.0	13,397.0	52,674.0	194.0	421.0	9,137.0	3,645.0	14,744.0	33,435.0	4,086.0	379.0
	Rate		10,477.5	2,124.5	8,353.0	30.8	66.8	1,448.9	578.0	2,342.8	5,302.1	648.0	60.1
1983	Total	627,500	58,150.0	11,936.0	46,214.0	186.0	406.0	7,698.0	3,646.0	12,483.0	29,405.0	3,955.0	371.0
	Rate		9,266.9	1,902.2	7,364.8	29.6	64.7	1,226.8	581.0	1,989.3	4,686.1	630.3	59.1
1984	Total	623,000	53,857.0	10,725.0	43,132.0	175.0	366.0	6,087.0	4,097.0	10,954.0	27,471.0	4,374.0	333.0
	Rate		8,644.8	1,721.5	6,923.2	28.0	58.7	977.0	657.6	1,758.3	4,409.5	702.1	53.5
1985	Total	626,900	50,367.0	10,172.0	40,195.0	148.0	337.0	5,230.0	4,457.0	10,004.0	24,873.0	5,024.0	294.0
	Rate		8,034.3	1,622.6	6,411.7	23.6	53.8	834.3	711.0	1,595.8	3,967.6	801.4	46.9

^aThe following classifications will be used in this and subsequent tables:

Crime Index Total equals Violent Crime Total Plus Property Crime Total.

Violent Crime Total equals the sum of murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

Property Crime Total equals the sum of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

^bData for 1975-1976 include Manslaughter by Negligence which is a Part I Offense but not a Crime Index Offense.

^cArson was classified as an Index Crime in 1979 and is included in the Property Crime Total and Crime Index Total for 1979-1985 only.

SOURCES: Offenses for 1975-1976: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis, 1978 *Comprehensive Criminal Justice Plan*, January 1978.

Offenses for 1977-85: Metropolitan Police Department, "Offenses Reported Under Uniform Crime Reporting Program," unpublished data.

Population Estimates: 1985 Population Estimates Limited States Bureau of Census 1985 Current Population Report #P 25951.

PREPARED BY: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis.

II. Reported Offenses

Reported offense data throughout the United States focus primarily on the eight major offenses defined by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as Crime Index offenses. These offenses are further divided into two groups: (1) violent offenses, which are murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault; and (2) property offenses, which are burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

In 1985, 50,367 Crime Index offenses were reported in the District of Columbia. This represents a crime rate of 8,034.3 per 100,000 residents. According to Table 1 (Figure 1), the number of reported Crime Index offenses declined in 1985 by 7 percent as compared with the previous year. It also marked the fourth consecutive year of a reduction in reported Crime Index offenses, and represents

the lowest number of reported Crime Index offenses since 1977.

Reported Crime Index rates in the District began to increase in 1977, rose until 1981, and declined thereafter. Since 1981, the number of reported Crime Index offenses decreased by 26 percent. This decrease over the last four years is primarily accounted for by declines in the number of burglaries (-41 percent), robberies (-50 percent), and larcenies (-24 percent).

Declines in reported Crime Index offenses are attributed to increased law enforcement measures, greater involvement by citizens in crime prevention efforts, and a decrease in the size of the District's young adult and juvenile population.

Figure 1
Reported Offenses in D.C.

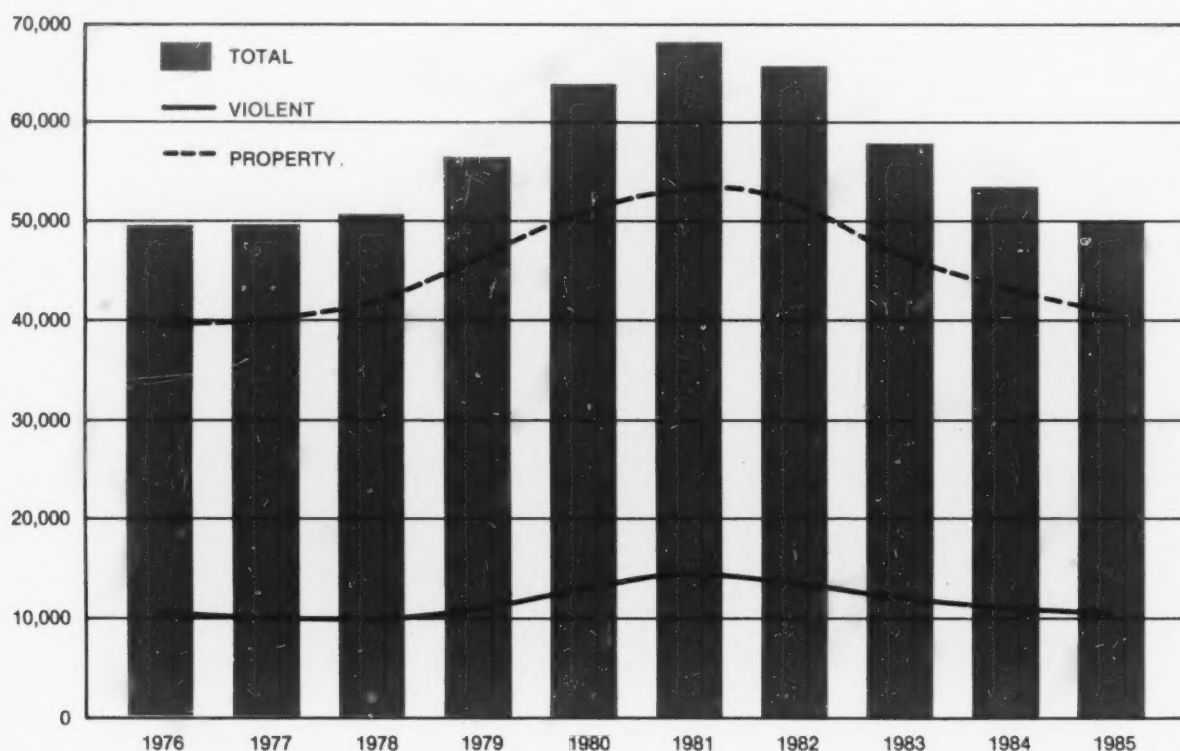


Table 2

Number of Adults Arrested for Crime Index Offenses in the District of Columbia
Calendar Years 1975-1985

Year	Crime Index Total	Violent Crime Total	Property Crime Total	Murder and Non- Negligent Manslaughter ^a	Forcible Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Burglary	Larceny- Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Arson ^b
1975	9,878	4,263	5,615	300	246	1,965	1,752	1,784	3,277	554	—
1976	8,946	3,874	5,072	217	190	1,769	1,698	1,226	3,235	611	—
1977	7,371	3,096	4,275	174	151	1,341	1,430	1,047	2,732	496	—
1978	7,129	2,663	4,466	146	153	1,121	1,243	989	2,840	637	—
1979	8,652	3,028	5,624	158	173	1,231	1,466	1,376	3,373	828	49
1980	8,716	3,114	5,602	154	145	1,344	1,471	1,378	3,385	785	54
1981	9,242	3,133	6,109	179	118	1,448	1,388	1,494	3,770	808	37
1982	8,844	2,990	5,854	156	135	1,224	1,475	1,447	3,467	895	45
1983	8,735	2,946	5,789	173	129	1,153	1,491	1,335	3,508	890	56
1984	8,856	2,902	5,954	138	139	1,023	1,602	1,232	3,635	1,035	52
1985	8,995	3,131	5,864	107	136	1,030	1,858	1,475	3,156	1,193	40

^aData for 1975-1976 include arrests for Manslaughter by Negligence which is a Part I Offense but not a Crime Index Offense.

^bArson was not classified as a Crime Index Offense until 1979.

SOURCES: 1975-76: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis, 1978 *Comprehensive Criminal Justice Plan*, January 1978. 1977-1985: Metropolitan Police Department, unpublished data.

PREPARED BY: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis.

Table 3

Number of Juveniles Arrested for Crime Index Offenses in the District of Columbia
Calendar Years 1975-1985

Year	Crime Index Total	Violent Crime Total	Property Crime Total	Murder and Non- Negligent Manslaughter ^a	Forcible Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Burglary	Larceny- Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Arson ^b
1975	3,997	1,371	2,626	26	34	1,096	215	1,279	1,082	265	—
1976	3,752	1,340	2,412	22	38	1,016	264	1,084	1,072	256	—
1977	3,322	988	2,334	22	61	646	259	915	1,115	304	—
1978	3,568	916	2,652	16	27	601	272	1,003	1,261	388	—
1979	3,280	863	2,417	15	26	601	221	859	1,130	407	21
1980	2,453	721	1,732	8	17	478	218	577	807	340	8
1981	2,428	720	1,708	12	18	462	228	572	768	360	8
1982	2,228	669	1,559	5	7	457	200	503	724	318	14
1983	2,250	655	1,595	3	15	434	203	515	648	419	13
1984	2,051	650	1,401	4	20	388	238	384	512	497	8
1985	2,443	986	1,457	15	22	431	518	374	343	725	15

^aData for 1975-1976 include arrests for Manslaughter by Negligence which is a Part I Offense but not a Crime Index Offense.

^bArson was not classified as a Crime Index Offense until 1979.

SOURCES: 1975-76: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis, 1978 *Comprehensive Criminal Justice Plan*, January 1978. 1977-1985: Metropolitan Police Department, unpublished data.

PREPARED BY: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis.

III. Arrests

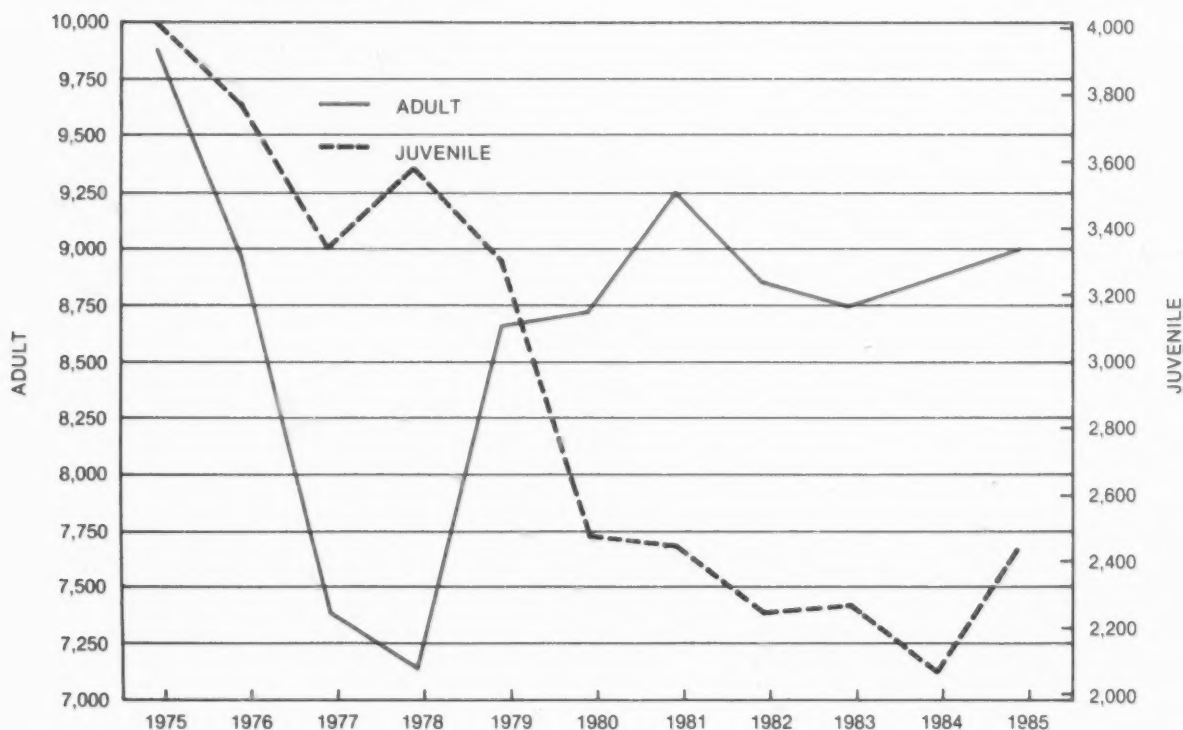
After a crime is reported, the police must determine the validity of the reported crime. Once validated, the police investigate and attempt to identify and apprehend a suspect. After an individual is taken into custody, the police decide, based on the facts of the case, which charges to impose and forward to the prosecutor.

The Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) is primarily responsible for law enforcement in the District of Columbia. At the end of 1985, 3,850 police officers served the MPD. Expenditures for the MPD amounted to \$155 million in FY 1985. In addition to the MPD, numerous law enforcement agencies, such as the U.S. Park Police, the Capital Police, and the Metro Security Force, are located in the District.

The number of persons arrested for Crime Index offenses in 1985 rose slightly from 10,907 in 1984 to 11,438 in 1985, representing a 5 percent increase. Adult arrests increased slightly, rising from 8,856 in 1984 to 8,995 in 1985, while juvenile arrests increased from 2,051 in 1984 to 2,443 in 1985 (Figure 2, Tables 2.3).

The number of juvenile arrests for Crime Index offenses represents the major indicator of juvenile arrests for delinquent activity. Since 1975, juvenile arrests for Crime Index offenses decreased each year until 1985. From 1984 to 1985, juvenile arrests for Crime Index offenses increased by 19 percent. Most of this rise is the result of a 118 percent increase in arrests for aggravated assault.

Figure 2
Crime Index Arrests in D.C.



Part II crimes are comprised of all other criminal offenses not included in the Crime Index categories. The number of arrests for Part II crimes increased from 32,360 in 1984 to 35,154 in 1985 (Table 6). The number of arrests for Part II crimes has increased annually for the last five years. Since 1979, arrests for Part II crimes have increased by 22 percent.

The increase in Part II arrests over the last several years has been caused by a dramatic rise in the number of adult

drug arrests, which rose from 4,241 in 1981 to 8,649 in 1985, representing a 104 percent increase. During this same period, the number of juveniles arrested for drug law violations increased from 315 to 883, a 180 percent increase (Figure 3, Table 4). The proportion of adult drug arrests involving sales, as compared to possession, has increased from 3 percent in 1980 to 36 percent in 1985 (Table 5).

Figure 3
Adult and Juvenile Drug Arrests

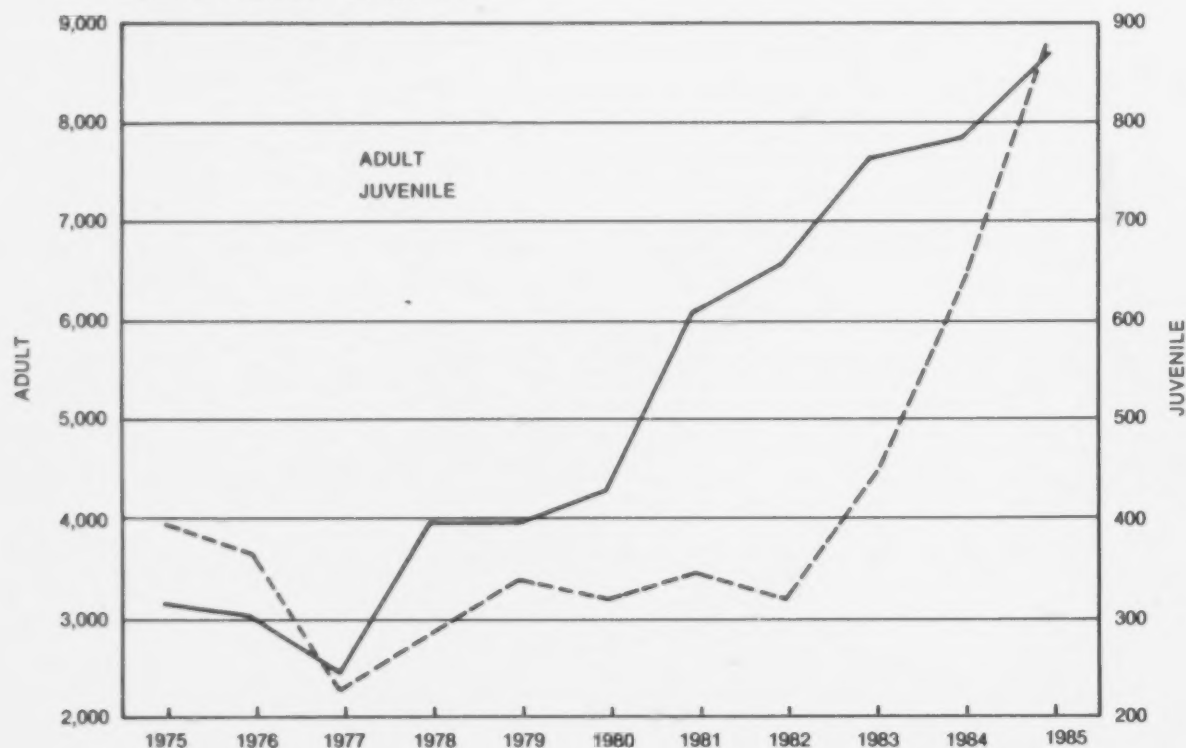


Table 4

Total Adult and Juvenile Drug Arrests
Calendar Years 1981-1985

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Juvenile	343	316	439	635	883
Adult	6,065	6,555	7,622	7,821	8,649
Total	6,408	6,871	8,061	8,456	9,532

SOURCE: Metropolitan Police Department, April 1986.

PREPARED BY: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis.

Table 5

Number and Percent of Adult Drug Arrests for Sales and Possession
Calendar Years 1981-1985

	1981		1982		1983		1984		1985	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Sales	350	5.8	1,842	28.1	2,935	38.5	3,542	45.3	3,126	36.1
Possession	5,715	94.2	4,713	71.9	4,687	61.5	4,278	54.7	5,523	63.9
Total	6,065	100.0	6,555	100.0	7,622	100.0	7,820	100.0	8,649	100.0

SOURCE: Metropolitan Police Department, March 1986.

PREPARED BY: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis.

Table 6

Number of Juvenile and Adult Arrests for Part I and Part II Offenses in the District of Columbia
Calendar Years 1975-1985

Year	Juvenile			Adult		
	Part I	Part II	Total	Part I	Part II	Total
1975	3,997	2,045	6,042	9,878	21,631	31,509
1976	3,752	2,673	6,425	8,946	25,498	34,444
1977	3,322	1,494	4,816	7,371	22,433	29,804
1978	3,568	1,548	5,116	7,129	22,604	29,733
1979	3,280	1,353	4,633	8,652	26,101	34,753
1980	2,453	1,095	3,548	8,716	24,616	33,332
1981	2,428	1,011	3,439	9,242	26,182	35,424
1982	2,228	1,033	3,261	8,844	28,416	37,260
1983	2,250	1,085	3,335	8,735	31,065	39,800
1984	2,051	1,310	3,361	8,856	31,050	39,906
1985	2,443	1,506	3,949	8,995	33,648	42,643

SOURCES: 1975-1976: Metropolitan Police Department, Planning and Development Division. 1977-1985: MPD Offenses Reported under Uniform Crime Reporting Program, March 1986.

PREPARED BY: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis.

IV. Prosecution

After a person has been arrested and charged, the charge and any additional information about that person is forwarded by the police to the prosecutor's office. In the District, the Office of the Corporation Counsel handles the prosecutions of all juvenile cases, all traffic cases, some misdemeanor cases, and all civil suits in which the District of Columbia government is a party. The United States Attorney's Office handles the prosecution of all other criminal cases.

The number of adult criminal prosecutions increased from 19,975 in 1984 to 21,115 in 1985, representing a 6 percent growth. Felony prosecutions during the same period rose from 6,707 to 7,480, a 12 percent increase (Figure 4, Tables 7, 8).

The rise in felony prosecutions over the last several years is primarily the result of a dramatic increase in the number of persons prosecuted for felony drug law violations, since 1983, that number more than tripled from 969 to 2,968 in 1985, a 206 percent increase.

Figure 4
Adult Prosecutions

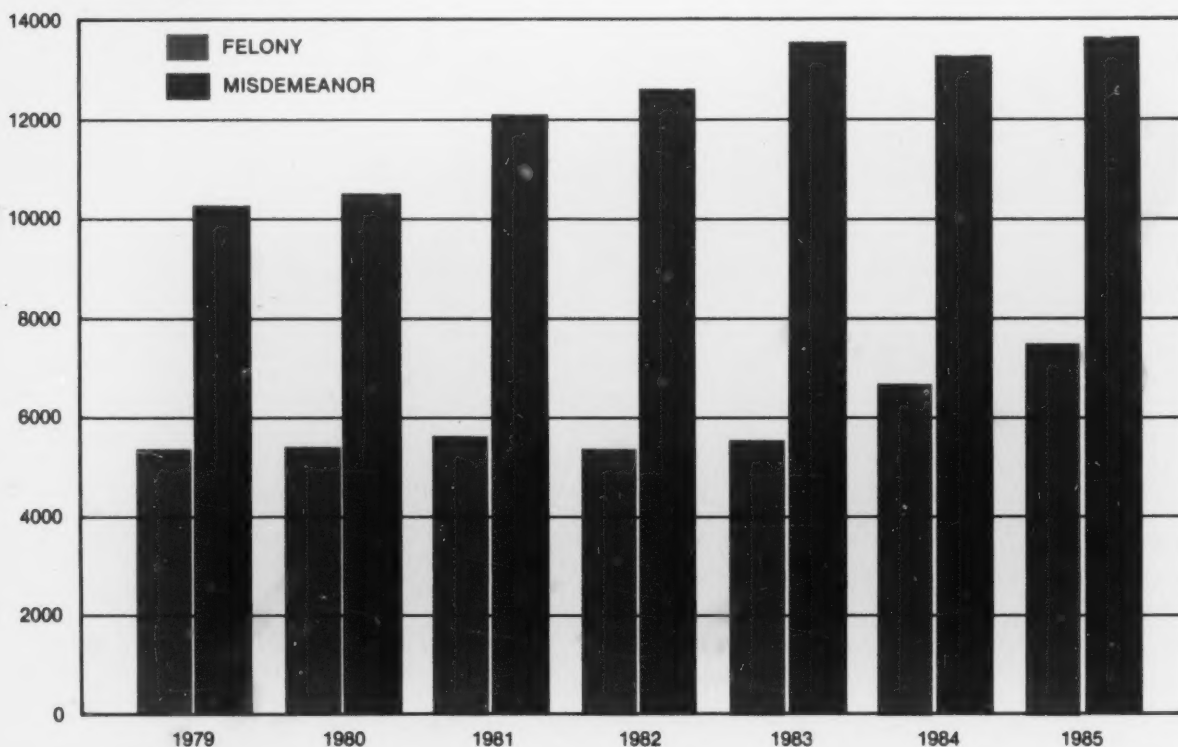


Table 7

**Number of Adult Felony and Misdemeanor Prosecutions
Calendar Years 1981-1985**

Year	Felony	Misdemeanor	Total
1981	5,622	12,052	17,674
1982	5,362	12,591	17,953
1983	5,542	13,526	19,068
1984	6,707	13,268	19,975
1985	7,480	13,635	21,115

SOURCE: United States Attorney's Office, Prosecutor Management Information System, March 1986.
PREPARED BY: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis.

Table 8

**Number of Adult Felony Prosecutions By Offense
Calendar Years 1981-1985**

Year	Arson	Assault	Burglary	Weapons	Drug Violations	Homicide	Other	Rape	Robbery	Theft	Auto-Theft	Total
1981	20	653	856	194	734	184	770	134	1,464	154	459	5,622
1982	30	658	809	176	838	175	751	176	1,372	115	262	5,362
1983	39	702	762	158	969	188	712	181	1,231	174	426	5,542
1984	36	706	676	134	2,277	157	763	206	1,041	138	573	6,707
1985	23	812	576	127	2,968	129	832	180	897	259	677	7,480

SOURCE: United States Attorney's Office, Prosecutor Management Information System, March 1986.
PREPARED BY: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis.

V. Convictions

The flow of cases from the point of arrest through sentencing involves a series of court hearings and actions. Those charged as adults with felony crimes go through the following steps:

- (1) *Felony Presentment* — Person is informed of charge, counsel is appointed (if necessary), pre-trial status is determined, and date is set for preliminary hearing (unless waived).
- (2) *Preliminary Hearing* — A judge determines from the evidence presented by the prosecution if there is probable cause to believe that a crime has been committed.
- (3) *Grand Jury* — The prosecutor's evidence is reviewed, and if the evidence is sufficient, an indictment is issued.
- (4) *Arraignment* — Indictment charges are presented, a plea is entered, and a trial date may be set.

- (5) *Trial* — If a felony defendant pleads not guilty, a trial takes place and a determination of guilt or innocence is made.

If a defendant pleads guilty, or if a defendant is found guilty by a judge or jury, a conviction is established and a sentence is imposed.

In 1985, there were 13,188 adult convictions, as compared with 10,992 in 1984 (Figure 5, Tables 9, 10). The number of felony convictions increased by 32 percent from 3,754 in 1984 to 4,942 in 1985. Misdemeanor convictions rose from 7,238 in 1984 to 8,246 in 1985, representing a 14 percent increase.

Since 1982, the number of adult felony convictions in the District has increased by 86 percent while adult misdemeanor convictions increased by only 15 percent.

The rise in adult felony convictions over the last several years is accounted for by an increase in felony drug convictions. Since 1981, the number of adult felony drug convictions has risen from 273 to 2,250 in 1985, a 724 percent increase.

Figure 5
Adult Convictions

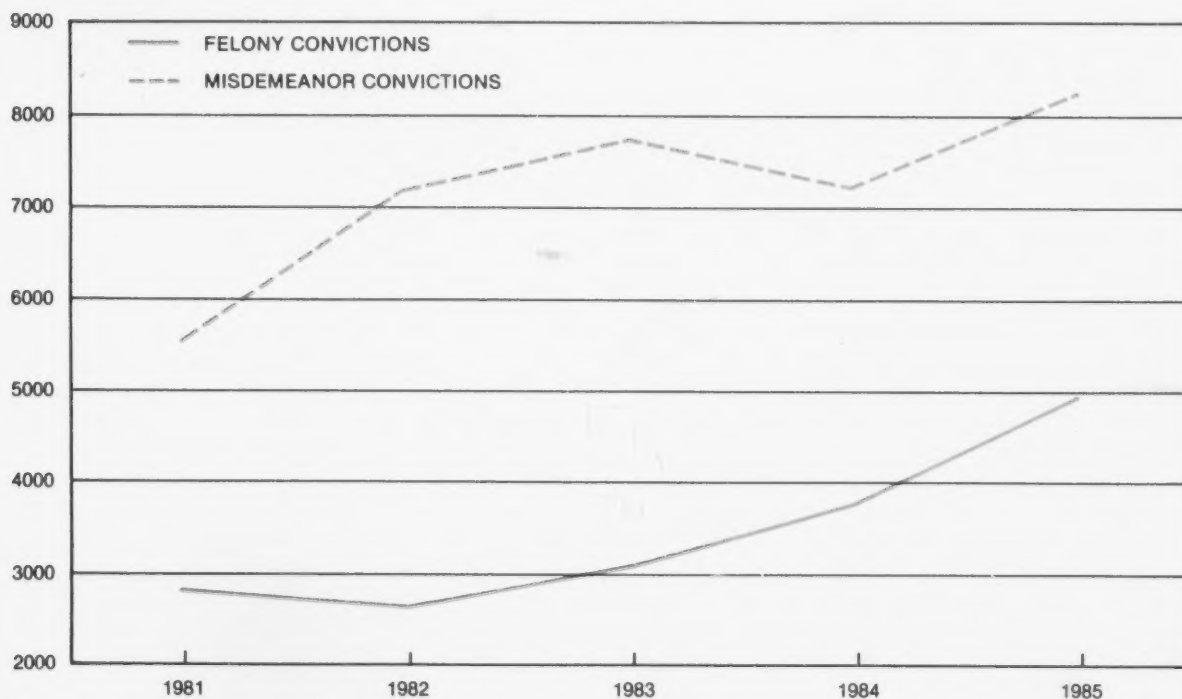


Table 9

**Number of Adult Felony and Misdemeanor Convictions
Calendar Years 1981-1985**

	Year	Felony	Misdemeanor	Total
	1981	2,850	5,548	8,398
	1982	2,661	7,204	9,865
	1983	3,088	7,755	10,843
	1984	3,754	7,238	10,992
	1985	4,942	8,246	13,188

SOURCE: United States Attorney's Office, Prosecutor Management Information System, March 1986.
PREPARED BY: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis.

Table 10

**Number of Adult Felony Convictions by Crime Index Offense¹
Calendar Years 1981-1985**

	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Theft	Drugs	UUV	Arson	Total
1981	118	81	792	279	535	177	273	88	2	2,345
1982	113	94	861	225	353	92	502	79	2	2,121
1983	140	100	761	289	408	135	605	102	8	2,548
1984	146	125	688	305	366	184	1,247	121	12	3,194
1985	111	92	596	402	326	234	2,250	185	13	4,209

¹ Includes convictions for drug law violations.

SOURCE: U.S. Attorney's Office, Prosecutor Management Information System, March 1986.
PREPARED BY: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis.

VI. Juvenile Prosecutions and Dispositions

The District's juvenile justice system differs, to some extent, from the adult justice process. Juvenile law enforcement is handled by the Youth Division of the Metropolitan Police Department, and prosecutorial functions are performed by the District's Office of the Corporation Counsel.

A probation officer is assigned to review all alleged delinquent cases. The officer delivers a recommendation for petitioning (prosecution) or no petitioning (no prosecution) to the Office of the Corporation Counsel. If a case is not petitioned, the juvenile is released without further court action. If the case is petitioned, it is forwarded for either a detention hearing or an initial hearing. Of 2,380 juvenile cases in 1985, 1,679 (71 percent) were petitioned. Assault (28 percent), motor vehicle theft (23 percent),

robbery (17 percent), and burglary (17 percent) were the cases most frequently petitioned in 1985 (Table 11).

In disposing of a juvenile case, the judge may exercise one of several options including:

- (1) commitment to the Youth Services Administration.
- (2) probation.
- (3) consent decree (conditional supervision by court).
- (4) suspended commitment.
- (5) closed without a finding.

In 1985, 1,370 juveniles either pled or were found guilty of delinquent offenses. This compares with 1,437 in 1984, a 5 percent decrease. The percentage of dispositions resulting in guilty findings remained virtually the same, at approximately 55 percent (Figure 6, Table 12).

Figure 6
Juvenile Dispositions



Table 11

Number of Juvenile Cases Petitioned and No Petitioned By Crime Index Offense
Calendar Year 1985

Offense	Petitioned	No Petitioned
Homicide	3	1
Rape	10	2
Robbery	292	113
Assault	484	174
Burglary	286	81
Larceny-Theft	227	104
Motor Vehicle Theft	388	221
Arson	9	5
Total	1,679	701

SOURCE: Office of the Corporation Counsel, April 1986.

PREPARED BY: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis.

Table 12

Juvenile Dispositions
Calendar Years 1983-1985

Year	Guilty	Dismissed	Consent Decree	Total
1983	1,334	953	253	2,540
1984	1,437	918	325	2,680
1985	1,370	833	273	2,476

SOURCE: Office of the Corporation Counsel, April 1986.

PREPARED BY: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis.

VII. Corrections

The District of Columbia Department of Corrections was established in 1946 and is responsible for the administration and operation of the District's jail and prison system for adults, as well as for operation of various community correctional centers and programs.

The District's sentencing facilities are in Lorton, Virginia on a 3,600 acre site. Minimum, medium, and maximum security facilities are used to house the majority of the District's male sentenced population. The District's Detention Facility (Jail) is in the District of Columbia and is primarily used to house persons awaiting trial. The District also uses the Federal Bureau of Prisons to house sentenced offenders.

Since 1980, the number of prison bedspaces increased by 1,887. During the same period, the number of correc-

tional officers increased by 605. Expenditures by the D.C. Department of Corrections increased from approximately \$59 million in FY 1980 to more than \$160 million in FY 1985.

The District's average daily prison population rose from 7,108 in 1984 to 8,368 in 1985, representing an 18 percent increase. Since 1981, the prison population has increased by 62 percent (Figure 7, Tables 13, 14). This reflects an increasing number of arrests, guilty dispositions, persons denied pre-trial release, and mandatory sentencing.

As indicated in Table 15, the proportion of persons sentenced to Lorton for drug law violations continues to increase, rising from 12 percent in 1981 to 22 percent in 1985. This rise stems from specific increases in arrests, prosecutions and convictions for drug law violations.

Figure 7
Correctional Population

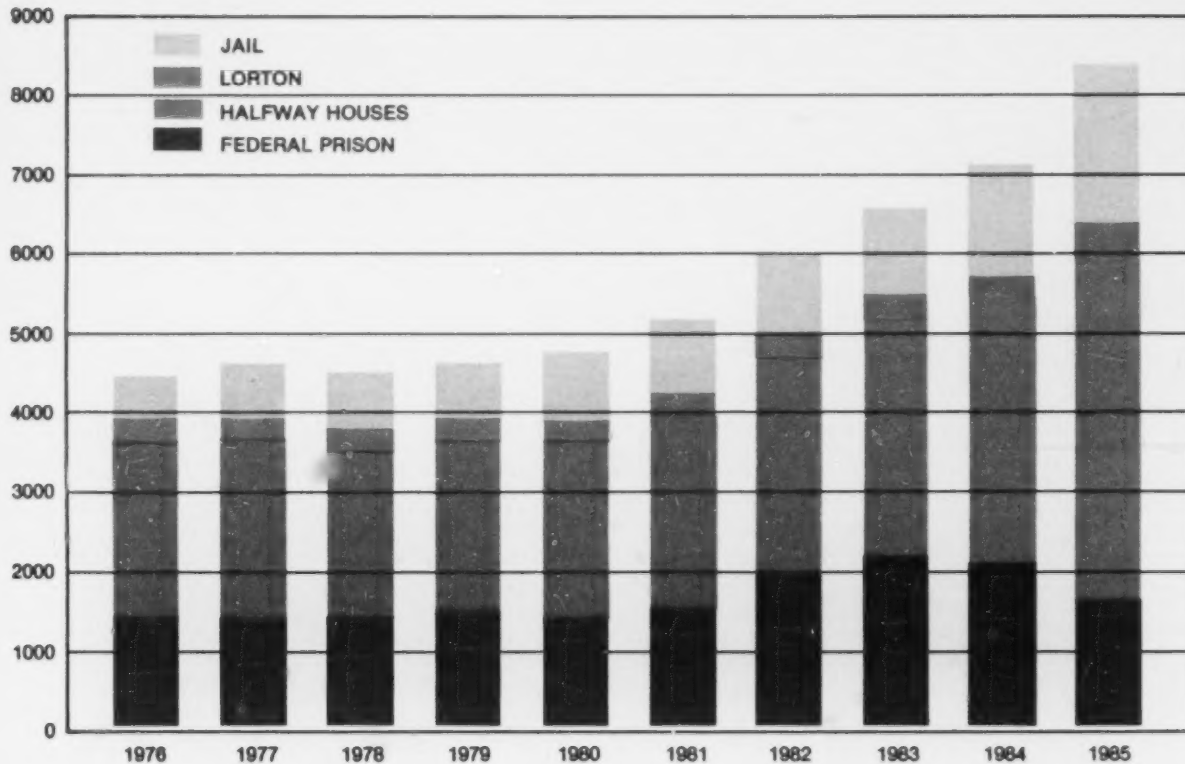


Table 13

Average Daily Population of District Incarcerates in District and Federal Facilities by Facility
Calendar Years 1976-1985

Year	Jail	Lorton	Halfway Houses	Federal Prison	Total
1976	1,376	2,253	246	567	4,442
1977	1,375	2,290	247	678	4,590
1978	1,370	2,151	244	728	4,493
1979	1,458	2,180	247	729	4,614
1980	1,377	2,248	248	873	4,746
1981	1,498	2,455	242	977	5,172
1982	1,903	2,778	253	1,029	5,963
1983	2,133	3,046	272	*1,100	6,551
1984	2,042	3,407	259	*1,400	7,108
1985	1,613	4,299	425	2,031	8,368

*Represents estimates.

SOURCE: D.C. Department of Corrections, March 1986.

PREPARED BY: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis.

Table 14

Number of D.C. Prisoners and Incarceration Rates
Calendar Years 1975-1985

Year	Number ¹	Rate/per 100,000
1975	3,550	491.84
1976	4,442	627.49
1977	4,590	663.77
1978	4,493	664.55
1979	4,614	698.88
1980	4,746	744.29
1981	5,172	820.17
1982	5,963	946.51
1983	6,551	1,043.98
1984	7,108	1,132.75
1985	8,368	1,334.82

¹Includes residents of halfway houses, District inmates held at federal prisons, sentenced inmates at Lorton facilities and at the D.C. Jail, and the District's pretrial and pre-sentenced population.

SOURCE: D.C. Department of Corrections, March 1986.

PREPARED BY: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis.

Table 15

Number of New Commitments to Lorton By Charges
Calendar Years 1983-1985

Charge	1983		1984		1985	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Assault	68	10	52	6	82	8
Auto-theft	31	5	17	2	15	2
Burglary	58	9	91	10	82	11
Drugs	107	16	110	12	174	22
Forgery	12	2	4	1	5	1
Homicide	49	7	118	13	101	13
Larceny	47	6	24	3	15	2
Rape	23	3	28	4	39	5
Robbery	223	33	299	34	229	30
Weapons	35	5	43	5	20	2
Sex Offenses	7	1	19	2	14	2
Other Felony	16	2	49	6	8	1
Other Misdemeanor	6	1	18	2	7	1
Total	682	100	882	100	771	100

SOURCE: D.C. Department of Corrections, March 1986.

PREPARED BY: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis.

VIII. Parole

In the District of Columbia, persons convicted of crimes and sentenced to terms of imprisonment generally become eligible for parole after serving approximately one-third of their maximum term. If conditions of release are violated, the Board of Parole may revoke parole and return that person to prison.

The number of parole releases declined from 1,163 in 1983 to 842 in 1985, representing a 28 percent decrease (Figure 8, Table 16). The number of parole revocations in-

creased from 298 in 1983 to 529 in 1985, representing a 78 percent increase. The 529 total in 1985 represents the highest number of annual parole revocations during the last five years.

Implementation of more stringent guidelines may have contributed to the reduction in parole releases. Recent changes in parole rules governing revocations appear to be contributing factors to the increase in the number of parole revocations.

Figure 8
Parole Actions

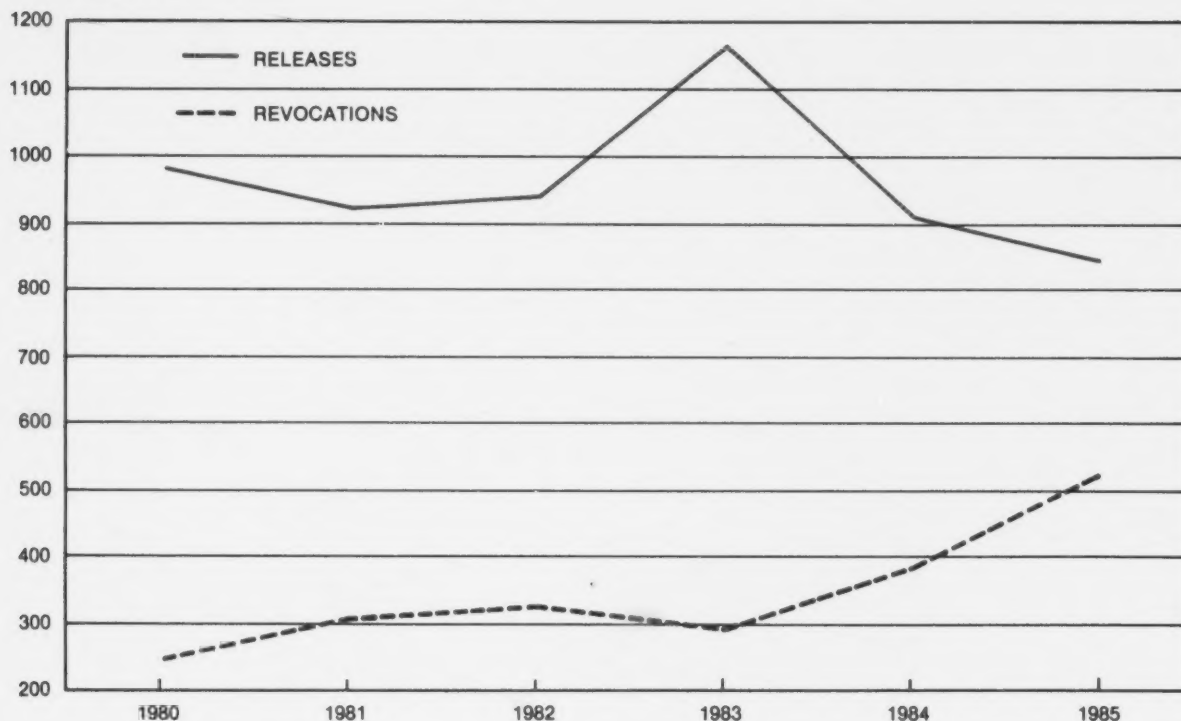


Table 16

**Number of Parole Releases and Revocations
Calendar Years 1980-1985**

Year	Releases	Revocations
1980	978	249
1981	919	310
1982	936	332
1983	1,163	298
1984	911	387
1985	842	529

SOURCE: D.C. Department of Corrections, March 1986.

PREPARED BY: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis.

IX. Summary

Reported Crime Index trends in the District continued their downward movement in 1985. The number of arrests increased due to a rise in adult and juvenile drug arrests. Adult felony and misdemeanor prosecutions and convictions continued to rise as a result of an increase in the number of persons charged with and convicted of felony drug law violations.

The District's average daily prison population has continued to rise, reflecting the increase in arrests, prosecutions, and convictions for drug law violations. The number of parole releases declined while the number of parole revocations increased.

Appendix A
Definition of Part I and Part II Offenses

Appendix B
Statistical Tables



Appendix A — Definitions

A. PART I OFFENSES

1. Criminal Homicide

a. Murder and Non-Negligent Manslaughter

All willful felonious homicides as distinguished from deaths caused by negligence, and excludes attempts to kill, assaults to kill, suicides, accidental deaths, or justifiable homicides. Justifiable homicides are limited to:

- (1) the killing of a felon by a law enforcement officer in the line of duty; and
- (2) the killing of a person in the act of committing a felony by a private citizen.

b. Manslaughter by Negligence²

Any death which the police investigation established was primarily attributable to gross negligence of some individual other than the victim.

2. Forcible Rape

The carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will in the categories of rape by force and attempts of assaults to rape. Excludes statutory offenses (no force used — victim under age of consent).

3. Robbery

Stealing or taking anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person by force or by violence or by putting in fear, such as strong-arm robbery, stickups, armed robbery, attempts or assaults to rob.

4. Aggravated Assault

Assault with intent to kill or for the purpose of inflicting severe bodily injury by shooting, cutting, stabbing, maiming, poisoning, scalding, or by the use of acids, explosives, or other means. Exclude simple assaults.

5. Burglary

Housebreaking or any breaking or unlawful entry of a structure with the intent to commit a felony or a theft. Includes attempted forcible entry.

6. Larceny-theft

The unlawful taking, carrying, leading or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another. Thefts of bicycles, automobile accessories, shoplifting, pocket-picking, or any stealing of property or article which is not taken by force and violence or by fraud. Excludes embezzlement, "con" games, forgery, worthless checks, etc.

7. Motor Vehicle Theft

Unlawful taking or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. A motor vehicle is self-propelled and travels on the surface rather than on rails. Specifically excluded from this category are motorboats, construction equipment, airplanes, and farming equipment.

B. PART II OFFENSES

1. Other Assaults (Simple)

Assaults which are not of an aggravated nature and where no weapon is used.

2. Arson

Willful or malicious burning with or without intent to defraud. Includes attempts.

3. Forgery and Counterfeiting

Making, altering, uttering or possessing, with intent to defraud, anything false which is made to appear true. Includes attempts.

4. Fraud

Fraudulent conversion and obtaining money or property by false pretenses. Includes bad checks except forgeries and counterfeiting. Also includes larceny by bailee.

5. Embezzlement

Misappropriation or misapplication of money or property entrusted to one's care, custody, or control.

6. Stolen property; buying, receiving, possessing

Buying, receiving, and possessing stolen property.

7. Vandalism

Willful or malicious destruction, injury, disfigurement, or defacement of property without consent of the owner or person having custody or control.

8. Weapon; carrying, possessing, etc.

All violations of regulations or statutes controlling the carrying, using, possessing, furnishing, and manufacturing of deadly weapons or silencers. Includes attempts.

9. Prostitution and Commercialized Vice

Sex offenses of a commercialized nature and attempts, such as prostitutes, keeping a bawdy house, procuring or transporting women for immoral purposes.

¹All definitions are from the U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Uniform Crime Reports for the United States*, Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing, 1977.

²While Manslaughter by Negligence is a Part I crime, it is not included in the Crime Index.

10. **Sex Offenses (except forcible rape, prostitution, and commercialized vice)**
Statutory rape, offenses against chastity, common decency, morals, and the like. Includes attempts.
11. **Drug Abuse Violations**
Offenses relating to narcotic drugs, such as unlawful possession, sale, use, growing, and manufacturing of narcotic drugs.
12. **Gambling**
Promoting, permitting, or engaging in illegal gambling.
13. **Offenses Against the Family and Children**
Nonsupport, neglect, desertion, or abuse of family and children.
14. **Driving Under the Influence**
Driving or operating any motor vehicle or common carrier while drunk or under the influence of liquor or narcotics.
15. **Liquor Laws**
State or local liquor law violations, except "drunkenness" (class 23) and "driving under the influence" (class 21). Excludes Federal violations.
16. **Drunkenness**
Drunkenness or intoxication.
17. **Disorderly Conduct**
Breach of the peace.
18. **Vagrancy**
Vagabondage, begging, loitering, etc.
19. **All Other Offenses**
All violations of state or local laws, except classes 1-2; and traffic.
20. **Suspicion**
No specific offense; suspect released without formal charges being placed.
21. **Curfew and loitering laws**
Offenses relating to violation of local curfew or loitering ordinances where such laws exist.
22. **Runaway**
Limited to juveniles taken into protective custody under provisions of local statutes.

APPENDIX B—Statistical Tables

These additional tables provide information on arrests for Crime Index offenses, adult Part II drug arrests by type of drug, and juvenile drug charges by type of drug.

Table A-1

**Number of Arrests for Crime Index Offenses in the District of Columbia
Calendar Years 1975-1985**

Year	Crime Index Total	Violent Crime Total	Property Crime Total	Murder and Non- Negligent Manslaughter ^a	Forcible Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Burglary	Larceny- Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Arson ^b
1975	13,875	5,634	8,241	326	280	3,061	1,967	3,063	4,359	819	—
1976	12,898	5,214	7,484	239	228	2,785	1,962	2,310	4,307	867	—
1977	10,693	4,084	6,609	196	212	1,987	1,689	1,962	3,847	800	—
1978	10,697	3,579	7,118	162	180	1,722	1,515	1,992	4,101	1,025	—
1979	11,932	3,891	8,041	173	199	1,832	1,687	2,235	4,503	1,233	70
1980	11,169	3,835	7,334	162	162	1,822	1,689	1,955	4,192	1,125	62
1981	11,670	3,853	7,817	191	136	1,910	1,616	2,066	4,538	1,168	45
1982	11,072	3,659	7,413	161	142	1,681	1,675	1,950	4,191	1,213	59
1983	10,985	3,601	7,384	176	144	1,587	1,694	1,850	4,156	1,309	69
1984	10,907	3,552	7,355	142	159	1,411	1,840	1,616	4,147	1,532	60
1985	11,438	4,117	7,321	122	158	1,461	2,376	1,849	3,499	1,918	55

^aData for 1975-1976 include arrests for Manslaughter by Negligence which is a Part I Offense but not a Crime Index Offense.

^bArson was classified as an Index Crime in 1979 and included in the Property Crime Total and Crime Index Total for 1979-1985 only.

SOURCES: 1975-76: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis, 1978 *Comprehensive Criminal Justice Plan*, January 1978. 1977-1985: Metropolitan Police Department, unpublished data.

PREPARED BY: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis.

Table A-2

Adult Part II Drug Arrests by Type of Drug
Calendar Years 1981-1985

	1981		1982		1983		1984		1985	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Sales										
Opium/cocaine and derivatives (heroin, morphine, codeine)	169	48.3	1,031	56.0	1,976	67.3	1,607	45.4	1,587	49.4
Marijuana	53	15.1	257	14.0	413	14.1	851	24.0	527	16.4
Synthetic/manufactured narcotics (demerol, methadone)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other dangerous non-narcotic drugs (barbituates, benzedrine)	128	36.6	554	30.1	546	18.6	1,084	30.6	1,101	34.2
Total	350	100.0	1,842	100.1	2,935	100.0	3,542	100.0	3,215	100.0
Possession										
Opium/cocaine and derivatives (heroin, morphine, codeine)	3,875	67.8	2,479	52.6	1,824	38.9	1,535	35.9	2,389	44.0
Marijuana	988	17.3	1,324	28.1	1,990	42.5	1,498	35.0	1,521	28.0
Synthetic/manufactured narcotics (demerol, methadone)	145	2.5	202	4.3	172	3.7	55	1.3	0	0.0
Other dangerous non-narcotic drugs (barbituates, benzedrine)	707	12.4	708	15.0	701	15.0	1,191	27.8	1,524	28.0
Total	5,715	100.0	4,713	100.0	4,687	100.0	4,279	100.0	5,434	100.0
GRAND TOTAL	6,065	—	6,555	—	7,622	—	7,821	—	8,649	—

SOURCE: Metropolitan Police Department, March 1986.

PREPARED BY: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis.

Table A-3

**Juvenile Drug Charges by Type of Drug
Calendar Years 1984-1985**

Drug	1984	1985
	Number	Number
PCP	353	545
Marijuana	358	281
Cocaine	43	132
Heroin	24	46
Total	778	1,004

SOURCE: Metropolitan Police Department, April 1986.

PREPARED BY: Office of Criminal Justice Plans and Analysis.

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